

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 PM-03 INR-07 L-02 ACDA-05 NSAE-00

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 ISO-00

ERDA-05 H-01 IO-10 OIC-02 OMB-01 SAM-01 SS-15 NSC-05

BIB-01 /082 W

----- 027044

R 241945Z FEB 75

FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 293

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO USCINCEUR

USNMR SHAPE

USLOSACLANT

CINCLANT

USDEL MBFR VIENNA

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

S E C R E T USNATO 1012

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NATO, MNUC

SUBJ: DANISH COMMENT ON NUCLEAR ASPECTS OF THE NUNN AMENDMENT

REF: USNATO 0962

AMBASSADOR SVART (DENMARK), WHO WAS WITHOUT INSTRUCTIONS AT
FEB 11 NPG PERMREPS MEETING ON NUCLEAR ASPECTS OF THE NUNN
AMENDMENT, AND THUS UNABLE TO COMMENT, CIRCULATED THE GENERAL
STATEMENT BELOW AFTER FEB 20 NPG PERMPRPS MEETING (REFTEL).
TEXT OF SVART STATEMENT FOLLOWS:

BEGIN TEXT:

MR. CHAIRMAN,

BEFORE TURNING TO THE DRAFT LETTER TO THE
US SECRETARY OF DEFENCE, I SHOULD LIKE TO
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MAKE A FEW REMARKS OF A MORE GENERAL CHARACTER
WHICH ARE, BROADLY SPEAKING, IN LINE WITH THE
VIEWS EXPRESSED BY OTHERS AROUND THIS TABLE.

AT OUR LAST MEETING I ALREADY EXPRESSED THE SATISFACTION OF MY AUTHORITIES THAT THE ALLIANCE AS SUCH SHOULD HAVE BEEN GIVEN AN OPPORTUNITY TO CONSULT ON THE DIFFERENT MATTERS RAISED BY THE LAST SECTION OF THE

NUNN AMENDMENT, THE ONE DEALING WITH THE UNITED STATES THEATRE NUCLEAR FORCES. I WISH TO CONFIRM THIS STATEMENT TODAY, BUT FURTHERMORE I SHOULD LIKE TO MAKE THE FOLLOWING POINTS:

FIRST OF ALL, MY AUTHORITIES TAKE NOTE OF THE INTENTION OF THE UNITED STATES TO CONDUCT A THOROUGH REVIEW OF NATO'S THEATRE NUCLEAR FORCE POSTURE IN EUROPE, AND THEY ALSO TAKE NOTE OF THE VIEW OF THE UNITED STATES THAT, AS A RESULT OF THIS REVIEW, A MODERNIZATION OF THE THEATRE NUCLEAR FORCES SHOULD BE POSSIBLE WHICH WOULD ENHANCE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE TACTICAL NUCLEAR LEG OF THE NATO TRIAD AND THUS STRENGTHEN THE STRATEGY OF DETERRENCE AND DEFENCE. IT WOULD SEEM TO US THAT FROM AN ALLIANCE POINT OF VIEW SUCH AN UNDERTAKING CAN ONLY BE WELCOMED.

SECONDLY, IN THE COURSE OF THIS PROCESS THE UNITED STATES MAY POSSIBLY FIND THAT THE INTRODUCTION OF EW TECHNOLOGY COULD LEAD TO A CERTAIN REDUCTION IN THE NUMBER OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS. THIS RESULT IS ALREADY FORESHADOWED IN THE ASSESSMENTS BY SHAPE AND BY THE MILITARY COMMITTEE WE HAVE IN FRONT OF US. ON THE OTHER HAND, IT IS EVIDENT THAT A REDUCTION IN THE NUMBER OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS IS STILL ONLY A HYPOTHESIS, AND MORE DETAILED STUDIES WILL HAVE TO BE CARRIED OUT IN THE UNITED STATES AND WITHIN
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THE FRAMEWORK OF THE ALLIANCE, BEFORE IT CAN BE CONFIRMED WITH CERTAINTY THAT THE UNITED STATES INTENTION TO MODERNIZE THEIR THEATRE NUCLEAR FORCES WILL MAKE NUMERICALLY REDUCTIONS POSSIBLE.

THIRDLY, WE SHALL UNDOUBTEDLY HAVE TO FACE, SOONER OR LATER, THE QUESTION OF HOW TO PRESENT TO PUBLIC OPINION THE CHANGES IN THE THEATRE NUCLEAR FORCES WE ARE FORESEEING, AND WE CAN, OF COURSE, ALL AGREE THAT IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT A POSSIBLE REDUCTION IN THE NUMBER OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN EUROPE SHOULD NOT BE MISUNDERSTOOD, NOT ONLY BY THE WARSAW PACT BUT ALSO BY PUBLIC

OPINION IN OUR COUNTRIES. WE SHOULD THEREFORE MAKE SURE IT WILL BE SEEN EXACTLY IN THE LIGHT JUST DESCRIBED. IF PRESENTED OTHERWISE, WE MIGHT WELL FEAR UNFORTUNATE PSYCHOLOGICAL CONSEQUENCES, AS SEVERAL OF MY COLLEAGUES POINTED OUT ALREADY AT OUR LAST MEETING. IT SHOULD BE POSSIBLE, I BELIEVE, TO STRIKE THE RIGHT BALANCE WHEN PRESENTING THESE PROBLEMS TO PUBLIC OPINION.

FOURTHLY - AND THIS IS ALSO, I THINK, COMMON GROUND AMONG ALL OF US - ANY CHANGES IN THE THEATRE NUCLEAR FORCES WHICH MIGHT BE DECIDED SHOULD BE SEEN IN CONNECTION WITH THE CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS ON MBFR, THAT IS, WE SHOULD MAKE SURE THAT OUR EFFORTS WITH RESPECT TO THESE NEGOTIATIONS AND OUR EFFORTS WITH RESPECT TO THE NUNN AMENDMENT ARE CLOSELY CO-ORDINATED.

HAVING MADE THESE GENERAL POINTS, LET ME NOW TURN BRIEFLY TO THE DRAFT LETTER FROM THE SECRETARY GENERAL TO THE SECRETARY OF DEFENCE OF THE UNITED STATES.

THE TEXT WE HAVE IN FRONT OF US TODAY PRESENTS IN OUR VIEW VERY CONSIDERABLE PROGRESS AS COMPARED WITH THE PREVIOUS DRAFTS. THUS WE NOTE WITH SATISFACTION THAT THE PRESENT TEXT IS INTENDED TO BE AND TO REMAIN CLASSIFIED. THIS BEING, OF COURSE, WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO THE QUESTION WHETHER IT MIGHT
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BE APPROPRIATE TO MAKE A SHORT GENERAL PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT AT A LATER STAGE. WE ALSO NOTE WITH SATISFACTION THAT THE GENERAL APPROACH OF THE PRESENT DRAFT SEEMS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE VIEWS I HAVE JUST OUTLINED, AND WE ARE IN PRINCIPLE ABLE TO ACCEPT IT AS IT STANDS.
END TEXTMCAULIFFE

SECRET

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 18 AUG 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 FEB 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975NATO01012
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: NATO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750286/abbrzikd.tel
Line Count: 150
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: n/a
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: USNATO 0962
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <04 APR 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <07 APR 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DANISH COMMENT ON NUCLEAR ASPECTS OF THE NUNN AMENDMENT
TAGS: PFOR, NATO, MNUC
To: STATE
SECDEF INFO USCINCEUR
USNMR SHAPE
USLOSACLANT
CINCLANT
MBFR VIENNA

COPENHAGEN

Type: TE

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006